

Indiana University South Bend (IUSB) Student Government Association (SGA)
Regular Meeting
April 25, 2008

The Regular session of the Student Government Association was called to order by Vice President Matthew Lopez at 3:38 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 2008 in room SAC #206. Secretary Teresa Santos was present.

Roll Call

Executives: Ivan Blount, Matthew Lopez, Teresa Santos, Nathan Reinhold

Senate: Amanda Acosta, Obadiah Counsellor, Julio Cruz, Zach Duncan, Maria Granados, Rema El-Ammori, Benjamin Fries, Sineyda Requeno, Isaiah Counsellor. (Absent: Amelie Kanovsky, Aleah Wilburn).

Judicial: Robyn Black

Advisor: absent

Guests: Dane Blue, Maureen Muldoon, Karen White, Jason Sikes, Frank Richmond, Brandi Miller, John Novak, Christine Pritchard

Out of Order

Vice President Matthew Lopez introduced the following guests and constituents: Dane Blue, Maureen Muldoon, Karen White, Jason Sikes, Frank Richmond, and Brandi Miller.

Guest Speakers

Maureen Muldoon from the Office of Special Events gave a presentation about event planning and how to go about making arrangements for an event on campus. She noted that her office is temporarily in the Associates Building, but will move back to its permanent location in the Administration Building when the remodeling is finished.

Karen White, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Services, spoke about the work she does on campus and said that she is looking forward to working with the SGA in the future. She said Chancellor Reck asked her to pass on her thanks to the SGA for the Dance for the Homeless event. This event was not only great for IUSB, but for the Center for the Homeless and bringing attention to the plight of homelessness. The dance highlighted the need for the community to get involved in helping out this segment of our population. White pointed out that she brought her grandchildren to this event and they went home telling their parents that they danced with the big kids.

White went on to ask the membership to give some thought to what it means to be elected and to serve the students who elected and appointed you to your office. She will be working with Sam to plan out a number of in-services to benefit the membership. She also asked several questions: How will you reach out to the 7500 students you serve? How do you get the word out to the student population that you are here? How will the SGA get information to and from the Elkhart location and the community center in student housing? How will you get information from the students? How do you advocate for the students? White said that she wants to thank the membership for their service to the students, but also wants to challenge the SGA to better serve the campus and community, pointing out that IUSB is the university that serves this community. She pointed out that through the dance marathon, the SGA has raised IU South Bend's level in the community and that it is wonderful. Vice President Lopez then thanked her for her support this year and asked White to convey the SGA's thanks to Chancellor Reck for all she has done for IUSB.

John Novak, Director of Institutional Research, made a presentation about his office and what Institutional Research does for the University. The office conducts surveys to find out what the needs of the students are. They work under the auspices of the Chancellor's office and currently are working on a new initiative to refine strategic planning for the campus. The campus just passed through the re-accreditation process and this is usually done every five years. Now additional work needs to be done. The campus needs to refine the strategic plan up to 2010 and 2014. They are now working on an environmental scan which means they will be looking outward from the campus. They will be looking at certain trends outside of the institution and there is expectation that there will be many opportunities for SGA members to get involved on the Campus Directions Committee. There are positions that have been left open for newly elected members of the SGA. They will be working with staff and faculty to collect information on the trends and the Campus Directions Committee will finish up the research. This will determine the future of the campus for the next five years. If interested please get in contact with the Chancellor and the Academic Senate. Work will be done electronically and there will be work over the summer and research will be conducted.

Vice President Lopez introduced Dane Blue-SGA President Elect for 2008-2009. He then asked Blue to join the membership at the table.

Lopez then introduced the Appeal and Decision of Judicial, concerning Senator Maria Granados' Executive Removal from Office by reason of excessive absences. Associate Justice Robyn Black reported that Judicial recognized Granados Appeal, and that Granados was reinstated with full privileges.

Senator Obadiah Counsellor moved to approve the April 18, 2008 minutes with corrections. The motion passed.

Voicing of Constituents

Accounting Club

Obadiah Counsellor, President of the Accounting Association, presented a funding request saying that the recent banquet left the organization with a bit of a financial strain. The banquet was open to all students and everyone was fed dinner at no charge. They had a guest speaker from one of the largest accounting firms in the world. The club will have tables at New Student Orientation and it is one of the largest clubs on campus. Nathan Reinhold said that the club averages 75 students in attendance at each meeting and that most professors promote the events and give extra credit as well. Counsellor is asking for \$945.87.

Japanese Club

Alex Troutman, Vice President and Christian Pritchard, Secretary of the Japanese Club, presented a funding request for \$800.00, to help cover costs associated with travel to the Anime Convention in Chicago. This is an annual trip the club has taken for the past six to seven years. The club is open to all with an interest in Japanese Culture. This year the club will be running two panels at the convention: How to Sustain your Anime Club and Children's activities. This is the largest Anime Convention and every club in the region attends. It is a great experience to meet and exchange information with other people who have similar interests. The club is traveling by car and does work to get IUSB's name out before the public. The Japanese Club works with many other clubs on campus, including the SGA.

Executive Reports

President

President Ivan Blount has evaluation forms for the SGA Advisor. This year the SGA will be evaluating Interim Advisor Scott Opasik. There will not be a form for Sam Centellas, as he hasn't been here long. The awards ceremony is May 2, 2008 and Blount hopes everyone can make it. The Dance for the Homeless was a huge success, received national attention, and it is an event to remember. Everyone did a good job. Marty Lukaszkeski is the Executive Branch's recommendation for the Mike Wargo Award. Lukaszkeski was the 1996-97 SGA President and was instrumental in lobbying for the SAC building. He was a former teacher at Bridgman High School, is active in the community and currently serves as an advisor at Brown Mackie College. He is a past member of the IUSB Alumni Board and is a Lifetime member of the Alumni Association. Blount introduced the Excellence in Community Service Award, an award he designed with Matthew Lopez. This is an award the SGA should present annually, beginning next year and it is intended to go to someone who has done more community work above and beyond the community level. Lopez said for instance, the SGA put on the dance marathon and it reached the entire community, but there are other groups on campus that does important things for the entire community. The Civil Rights Heritage is an example. Blount said their mission extends to the entire campus, but also the entire South Bend Community. Anybody is eligible to receive this award and that Dane Blue will be the person who will give the first award.

Vice President

Vice President Matthew Lopez noted that there are a number of business items to get through and asked for a suspension of rules so the SGA could take care of business that needed dealt with, but could not be taken care of in normal fashion since this is the last meeting for this year. The Japanese Club turned in the funding request form without an advisor signature, the advisor is out of town, but the form was turned in on time. Senator Sineyda Requeno did not understand and asked for clarification. Lopez explained the rules of business.

Senator Obadiah Counsellor moved to suspend the rules. Lopez said that had to be done in New Business.

Lopez reminded the membership the stipend forms needed to be filled out.

Secretary

Secretary Teresa Santos passed around the attendance report.

Treasurer

Treasurer Nathan Reinhold reported an account balance of \$13,189.76, noting that the balance doesn't include 2 funding requests, because they have not yet been processed. The SGA will get another \$8000.00 from the last period of the year. Reinhold summarized the work of the Budget Advisory Committee and said the purpose is not only the allocation of funds, but also an assessment of fees. The committee will work over the summer to finish up the work that was begun and Dane Blue will have to reappoint the committee for the upcoming year.

Old Business

Senator Amanda Acosta moved to approve Marty Lukaszkeski for the Mike Wargo Award. The motion passed.

Senator Rema El-Ammori moved to discuss the Preface funding request. The motion passed.

El-Ammori noted that they are requesting \$2794 because they are falling short of funds for three issues. Brandi Miller was asked for clarification of the Preface issues. Miller said that the Preface did get additional dollars in the way of advertising since the last issue, and that Rick Dennie's office is paying for the Student Orientation issue. The paper should not fall short of funds again. Jason Sikes pointed out that the paper has plugged up a lot of areas where there were leaks and that they just hired a new layout designer. They are actively looking for advertisers and want to find a person to fill the role of selling ad space and who will focus entirely on that. The April paper was only 8 pages. President Blount asked if the Preface has already decided the presentation for the orientation paper. Miller answered that they have. The stories are due by May 1st and they will print for five orientations through the summer. They may be willing to do an additional paper for the end of the year. They will feature the SGA in the first issue of the next academic year. Dane Blue pointed out that all of the writers are writing free for the orientation edition. He also noted the Preface was featured on the Regis and Kelly show.

Senator Amanda Acosta moved to approve \$2794 for the Preface. The motion passed.

David Romero's funding request of \$2800 for assistance with study abroad program died on the floor.

New Business

Senator Sineyda Requeno moved to approve funding of \$945.87 for the Accounting Association. The motion passed.

Senator Isaiah Counsellor moved to discuss the funding request by the Japanese Club. The motion passed. Counsellor noted the club doesn't have a figure for the amount of attendees this year. Senator Amanda Acosta said the request seemed to be a reasonable amount of money and noted the club does a lot for the campus.

Senator Rema El-Ammori moved to approve \$800.00 for the Japanese Club. The motion passed.

Senator Maria Granados moved to discuss the Excellence in Community Award. The motion passed. Granados said that she agrees with the award, noting that although the SGA does things for the community so do several other campus organizations and we should award them.

Senator Granados moved to establish the Excellence in Community Service Award, beginning in 2008-2009. The motion passed.

For the Good of the Order

Adjourned

At 5:16 p.m.

Secretary: Teresa G. Santos

Date: 04/25/2008

Signature: _____

Date Approved: _____